

Guitar Compositions by Emiliano Pardo-Tristán

Marco Corrales, classical guitar

Monday, February 10, 2025 · 7:30 PM

Rock Hall Auditorium

1715 N. Broad Street

Philadelphia, PA 19122

Program

Brunnhilde's First Dream (2002) Emiliano Pardo-Tristán

Brunnhilde's Second Dream (2002) Emiliano Pardo-Tristán

Brunnhilde's Third Dream (2020) Emiliano Pardo-Tristán

El Tambor de la Agonía (1994) Emiliano Pardo-Tristán

Sonata en Rojo (2023) Emiliano Pardo-Tristán

I. Amaranto

II. Cinabrio

Sonata en Azul (2020) Emiliano Pardo-Tristán

I. Indigo

II. Lapislázuli

III. Zarco

The use of photographic, audio and video recording is not permitted.

Please turn off all electronic devices.

Two hundred fourteenth performance of the 2024-2025 season.

Program Notes by the Composer

Brünnhilde's Three Dreams

Music inspired by the cycle of four operas, *The Ring of the Nibelung*, by Richard Wagner, based on Icelandic sagas. *Brünnhilde's Three Dreams* imagines the possible musical dreams that Brünnhilde may have had while she slept, surrounded by a circle of fire, as punishment for disobeying Wotan, her father. *Brünnhilde's First Dream* is a musical tour de force which includes some leitmotifs from the opera, combined with unexpected rhythms and accents. The *Second Dream* has the structure of a theme and variations. The theme is from *Siegfried Idyll*, and the variations use baroque treatment of the theme, mode changes, chromaticism, tremolo technique, and Latin American rhythms that do not appear in the opera. *Brünnhilde's Third Dream* opens citing thematic material from the *Ride of the Valkyries*, the third act of the opera, *The Valkyrie*. The piece is a depiction of Wagner's imaginary encounter with Andean music as he discovers the Caribbean sound of claves, bongos, and congas.

El Tambor de la Agonía

A musical tribute to the Panamanians who died in the United States invasion of Panama in 1989. The title is a parody of a well-known Panamanian *tamborito* (drum music) and jingle, *The Drum of Joy*. The work uses the melodic and rhythmic material of the original source, which is considered the second anthem of Panama.

Sonata en Rojo

Winning work of the "Roque Cordero 2023 National Musical Composition Competition", dedicated to the guitarist Nadia Borislova, who premiered the piece in Puebla, Mexico. The work consists of two movements, with epigraphs from poems by two Spanish writers who are close in geography and distant in their lives: the Andalusians Antonio Machado and Luis de Góngora:

Amaranto: "The red sun of a dream in the East appears", Antonio Machado.

Cinabrio: "The red passage of the white dawn", Luis de Góngora.

Each movement is divided into three sections. In *Amaranto*, the beginning is a study of symmetries inspired by the music of Béla Bartók, where, starting from the note C, on two strings, each part moves in opposite directions, moving away from the other. This study first section gains interest with the meter changes and the unpredictable accents. The second section in both movements is similar: a slow tempo, with a triplet figure that plays with the melodic and harmonic material in a free, although repetitive, way. This part is also a transition for the transformation of two Russian musical materials:

Scheherazade's Dance in *Amaranto* and *Stravinsky's Berceuse* in *Cinabrio*. The coda returns to the introduction, to build an arch structure in both parts.

Sonata en Azul

Composed in three movements and on three shades of blue: indigo, lapis lazuli and zarco. The work is inspired by texts by two poets from the Spanish Generation of '27, Pedro Salinas and Rafael Alberti, and by the central figure of Literary Modernism, Rubén Darío:

Indigo: "The sea goes through the sea looking for blue", Pedro Salinas.

Lapislázuli: "As drawn with a blue pencil, which separates the waters from the heavens", Ruben Darío.

Zarco: "Who will ride the blue foam horse of the sea!", by Rafael Alberti.

In these pieces are the elements that make my compositions recognizable and that have become my voice as a composer: constant changes of meter, accents in unexpected places, dissonances, minimalism by expansion, and the almost absence of rests. Clear influences from the music of Igor Stravinsky, Béla Bartók and Latin American folklore.

Emiliano Pardo-Tristán

About the Artists

MARCO CORRALES was born in Costa Rica and is one of the most prominent classical guitarists in Central America. He has won prizes at the *Panama International Guitar Competition* (2018), the *Havana International Guitar Competition* (2016), "*Guitarras sin Fronteras Competition*" (Mexico, 2015), *Southwest Guitar Competition* (2024), *Costa Rica National Guitar Competition* (2013), and the *International Guitar Competition "Promesas de la Guitarra"* (2011), among others. Dedicated mainly to the performance of Latin-American music and to showcasing the work of living composers, he has recorded three albums including original works for guitar by Costa Rican composers and another in co-production with Panamanian composer Emiliano Pardo-Tristán. Marco Corrales has performed concerts in Costa Rica, USA, Mexico, Argentina, Panama, Colombia, El Salvador and Brazil.

EMILIANO PARDO-TRISTÁN was born in Panama and has lived in the United States since 1992. He studied at the Royal Superior Conservatory of Music in Madrid, Spain and received a master's degree in performance and a doctorate in composition from Temple University, Philadelphia, and a post-doctorate from New York University. In 2018, 2020, 2022, 2023 and 2024 he won the *Roque Cordero National Musical Composition Contest* in Panama. He has written articles about music and literature for the *Panamá América* newspaper. In 2020, he won the *Ricardo Miró National Literature Contest*, with his novel *Lo blanco y lo negro*. Pardo-Tristán has released five CDs, and his compositions have been performed by the Philadelphia Classical Symphony, Delaware Symphony, Grand Rapids Orchestra, Jackson Symphony, Panama National Orchestra, and Temple University Orchestra; and by noted ensembles and soloists from Europe, Latin America, and the United States. He teaches private composition at Temple University, and classical guitar at the Bryn Mawr Conservatory and Haverford College.

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